

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1211

By Tindell

A RESOLUTION to commend William Kenneth Knight for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, William Kenneth Knight is one such venerable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, born on February 15, 1936 in Knoxville, Tennessee, William Knight completed his secondary education in Knoxville, graduating from Rule High School in 1954; and

WHEREAS, he married Shirley Rice Knight in 1957, a blessed union that has continued for 47 loving years; and

WHEREAS, lifelong Tennessee residents, the Knights currently reside in North Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, their happy union has produced two devoted sons, William K. Knight, Jr. and John Kelly Knight; William and Shirley Knight are also the proud grandparents of four remarkable grandchildren, Justin, John Morgan, Sean, and Andrew Knight; and

WHEREAS, William Knight began his illustrious career with the Knoxville Fire Department (KFD) on September 1, 1960; he retired from the KFD on February 1, 1988 after nearly twenty-eight years of commendable service; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure with the KFD, Mr. Knight distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, a devoted public servant, William Knight also answered the call to duty as a member of the Tennessee Air National Guard for over ten years; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the Fire Department, Mr. Knight served with acumen and alacrity with the State of Tennessee as a mobile home inspector from 1989 to 2001; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from the Department of Commerce and Insurance, he served under Governor McWherter; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong Democrat, William Knight has been active in a number of political campaigns on the local, state, and national scene, including U.S. Senator Jim Sasser, Governor Ned McWherter, and the Clinton/Gore presidential campaigns; and

WHEREAS, William Knight's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work, perseverance, and common sense; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, William Kenneth Knight is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend William Kenneth Knight for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.